

REMARKS

Restriction Requirement

Applicants herein acknowledge the restriction requirement in the above-referenced application. Claims 1 through 35, and 40 through 49 are currently pending in the application. The Office has identified the following groups of claims as being drawn to separate inventions:

Group I – claims 1-24, and 40-49, drawn to a propulsion system with thrust direction (maneuver) modifying means, classified in class 60, subclass 228;

Group II – claims 25-28, drawn to method of extinguishing a solid propellant, classified in class 60, subclass 219; and

Group III – claims 29-35, drawn to a propulsion system having a plurality of valves capable of being simultaneously opened to stop the combustion of the solid propellant, classified in class 60, subclass 254.

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I, claims 1-24 and 40-49, without traverse.

Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the Examiner's invitation to amend the claims along the lines discussed with Applicants' undersigned attorney on May 10, 2005. However, Applicants would prefer to avail themselves of the opportunity to consider the results of the search performed by the Examiner and the Examiner's thought process in applying references of record to the elected claims, as well as to respond in detail as to Applicants' own position in this regard. Applicants' undersigned attorney can assure the Examiner that they, too, desire an expeditious and mutually satisfactory conclusion to prosecution of the present application, but recognize their obligation to Applicants to secure the broadest possible patentable claims to the present invention.

CONCLUSION

An Office Action on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 8, 2005
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